



For Immediate Release

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"A MONUMENTAL AND HISTORIC STEP FORWARD"

Jackson votes for landmark health care overhaul legislation

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. voted today in strong support of legislation to overhaul the nation's health care system -- the Affordable Health Care for America Act. He called passage of the bill "a monumental, historic step forward."

"For nearly 100 years, politicians of all stripes and in both parties have attempted to bring comprehensive reform to our nation's health care system. Now, a century later, we -- at long last -- are delivering on the promise of making quality, affordable health care available to all Americans.

"This is change we can believe in, progress we can count on and a right we should all enjoy.

"This landmark bill reinforces the promise of our founding documents. It renews the meaning of our creed and reflects the enduring, eternal truth that

We
all are created equal and endowed with certain unalienable Rights.

We should all have health care.

"In passing this bill, we begin a new era in America. Gone will be the days when citizens go untreated, becoming sicker and sicker because they can't afford to see the doctor or get medicine. Gone will be the days when they can't get coverage because of a previous illness or condition.

Gone will be the days when Americans are at risk of falling into poverty or going to an early grave because health care was delayed, dropped or denied."

"We are a better nation than that," Jackson said.

"We can cure the sick. We can help those in need. We each can pursue our own paths and yet still be our brother's keeper. That's at the heart of this reform.

That's at the heart of America.

"This health care reform bill builds on what works and fixes what's broken. It provides more security and stability to those who have health insurance and expands access to affordable, quality coverage to those who don't.

It does this in a way that allows the American people to see the doctor they want, for the health care they need, in a revamped system that is more efficient, less costly and of higher quality.

"This reform is urgent. It is indisputable. It forms a more perfect Union."

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